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FEBRUARY MEETING.

A stated monthly meeting of the Society was held this day, Thursday, February 13, at 11 o'clock, A.M.; the senior Vice-President, Col. Aspinwall, in the chair.

The Recording Secretary read the record of the last meeting.

The Librarian announced donations from: —

The Department of State of the United States; the Essex Institute; the New Jersey Historical Society; Oberlausitzische Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften zu Görlitz; the Trustees of the Free Public Library of New Bedford; the Editors of the "Advocate;" the Proprietors of the "Heraldic Journal;" the Publishers of "Lippincott's Magazine;" John Appleton, M.D.; Mr. Abram E. Cutter; Prof. Charles Drowne; William Everett, Esq.; Hon. Hugh B. Grigsby; Clement H. Hill, Esq.; Benjamin P. Johnson, Esq.; William A. King, Esq.; Mr. Joel Munsell; Rev. William L. Ropes; A. R. Spofford, Esq.; Rev. Edwin M. Stone; Joseph Willard, Esq.; and from Messrs. Deane, Denny, Ellis, Green, C. Robbins, Shurtleff, and Whitney, of the Society.

The Committee appointed in June last to take into consideration the subject of the alleged claim of the Commonwealth to some "Hutchinson Papers," in the archives of the Society, submitted their Report through Dr. Ellis, its chairman.

Report on the "Hutchinson Papers."

The Committee of this Society, to whom was referred the subject-matter of the inquiries instituted last year by the Legislature of the State, relating to certain "Hutchinson Papers," so called, in the Society's possession, do now report as follows:—

While engaged in the duty intrusted to them, your Committee received from the acting President of the Society, Col. Aspinwall, an official communication of His Excellency the Governor, dated the 10th of January, 1868, and addressed to Col. Aspinwall, inclosing a Resolve of the Legislature of 1867, c. 85, requesting the Governor to apply to this Society for information on the subject of the "Hutchinson Papers," with a view to reclaiming for the Commonwealth any such papers supposed to have been alienated without authority from the State archives, and to be unwarrantably held by the Society.

Your Committee have thought that it would be both proper and convenient for them, and they therefore ask the permission of the Society, to be allowed to give the Report, in the form of a Reply, in behalf of the Society, to the communication of the Governor.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR BULLOCK,—The undersigned, a Committee appointed by the members of the Massachusetts Historical Society, have the honor to address your Excellency in reply to a communication received from you in reference to certain historical papers in the possession of the Society, which, it is intimated, may be the property of the State, and therefore reclaimable by it.

Your Excellency refers to a Resolve of the Legislature of 1867, chapter 85, requesting you "to ascertain whether any books, manuscripts, or other documents, now in the possession

of the Massachusetts Historical Society, are the property of the Commonwealth; and to take such measures as the Governor may deem proper to determine the question of title, and procure the restoration of the same to the library of the Commonwealth, and to report to the present Legislature the result of his action under this Resolve."

Your Excellency adds, that, as the result of such information as you have obtained, you conclude "that the Massachusetts Historical Society have in their possession certain papers, known as the 'Hutchinson Papers,' which are the ones referred to in the legislative Resolve, and which were at one time the property of the Commonwealth. I am not aware of any way in which the title of the Commonwealth has ever been divested."

Your Excellency therefore asks to be informed whether the Massachusetts Historical Society has such books, manuscripts, or other documents referred to in the Resolution of the Legislature, in its possession; if so, that the Society give you a statement in detail of what they are, and inform you by what title, if any, the Society claims to hold them.

The undersigned, fulfilling their commission, and seeking most respectfully to meet with full candor of reply your Excellency's question, might suggest that the indefiniteness and vagueness of the description of the alleged property of the Commonwealth, supposed to be improperly in the possession of the Society, embarrass their answer.

Whatever, among the masses of the manuscripts in the Society's cabinet, might have happened at any time, fitly or unfitly, by accident or by carelessness, to have been disposed either in loose files, or collected in volumes; and whatever bound volumes might have been arranged in print or manuscript on the shelves, under the designation of "Hutchinson Papers," — would seem to be included under the vague and undefined terms of the legislative Resolve, and of your Excellency's description.

In connection with this remark, the Committee would beg leave to refer — not without surprise at the sweeping, unqualified, and wholly untenable character of the assertion — to a sentence in the Report of the Library Committee of the Legislature, May 30, 1867, on which followed the Resolve quoted by your Excellency. In that Report it is recited that the State came into possession, by purchase, of certain volumes known as the "Hutchinson Papers," and affirmed that they "were placed with the other records in the department of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and remained there until 1820, when Mr. Bradford — then Secretary, and also a member of the Historical Society — carried the papers which make the first three volumes, and gave them to the Society."

The seemingly greater definiteness of the matter of the assertion in this Report is reached by an assumption and an inference, which, we respectfully suggest, are wholly unwarranted, and may be most successfully invalidated by a statement of facts on record, and by legitimate inferences to be deduced from them.

The Report assumes, that, previous to 1820, there was a certain series of volumes, or of documentary materials for volumes, in the archives of the State, obtained by purchase; and that the papers which represent the first three volumes of that series were taken, by his own proper motion and without warrant, by a gentleman who was at the same time both Secretary of the Commonwealth and a member of the Historical Society, and were "given" by him to that Society. The inference is drawn that certain "Hutchinson Papers" now in the possession of the Society constitute that unwarranted "gift."

In replying to your Excellency's questions, the undersigned take the liberty of also keeping in view the above statement, and of meeting its assertions; hoping in this way to offer a full explanation of all the facts of the case within their knowledge, and a justification of the right of the Society to the property in question which it now holds.

They believe that all the grounds and evidence on which the supposed claim of the State to the "Hutchinson Papers" in the Society's cabinet rests, are drawn from entries in the Society's records. They do not understand that the Commonwealth has any inventory, schedule, or calendar of such papers once in its archives, which can be identified, by title, contents, or definite description, as now in the Society's possession; nor that there is any entry, in the journals of the State, of any transfer, loss, or known date of the disappearance of such papers from its archives.

The records of the Society supply the sole ground of the supposed claim, which is the matter of your Excellency's question, as will appear from the following statement: In January, 1846, the Hon. J. G. Palfrey, being Secretary of State, and also a member of the Historical Society, found in its record of meetings and proceedings this entry, under date of October 28, 1819: —

Voted, "that the letters found among the papers of Governor Hutchinson, and communicated by Mr. Bradford, be referred to the Publishing Committee."

There is also the following entry, at the next meeting of the Society, January 27, 1820: —

"The additional letters, found by Mr. Secretary Bradford among the papers of Governor Hutchinson, and presented to the Society by the permission of the Governor and Council, were referred to the Publishing Committee."

The following letter of Mr. Bradford accompanied the parcel of letters, &c., last referred to: —

"Jan. 27 [1820].

"DEAR SIR, — I send some very old letters and papers, selected from the files left by Governor Hutchinson, with a list of them.*

* This list, having served its purpose, appears not to have been preserved, for it is not on file.

Some of them have been printed in Hazard, and some in Hutchinson. But many of them were never printed, and are valuable. I have obtained leave of the Council to present them to the Society. They are no part of the files of the Secretary's office.

“ Yours,

A. BRADFORD.”

Addressed to “ Rev. Dr. Holmes, Corresponding Secretary of the Society. Present.”

The records indicate that two additional parcels were received from the same source. On the strength of the supposed evidence thus furnished by these entries in the Society's records, Secretary Palfrey inferred that the contents of three volumes in the cabinet, labelled “ Hutchinson Papers,” were the property of the State, and had been unwarrantably either abstracted or alienated from its archives. Accordingly, in the exercise of what he regarded as his official duty, he addressed to the Society, under dates of January 1, 1846, January 19, 1847, and July 27, 1847, three communications on the subject. Though his action was not, at the time, accompanied or followed by any legislative process, the present inquiry is made to proceed upon it.

Your Excellency's question will be substantially answered, so far as our means of information will allow, by an account of the volumes in the Society's cabinet, entitled the “ Hutchinson Papers;” a sketch of their contents; a reference to the sources from which they were derived; and by a comparison of them with the contents of the volumes in the State archives, with which the Committee of the legislature supposed them to constitute, before 1820, a connected series.

The most recently acquired of the “ papers ” once belonging to Governor Hutchinson, or loaned to him to be used in his historical labors, have been in the possession of the Society but one or two years short of half a century. Some of them have been in the cabinet since 1791. They have been contributed from many sources, in answer to appeals resulting

from a design referred to in the following extract from the Society's records under the date of April 9, 1791 : —

"The Committee who were appointed to inquire what collections could be made towards forming an Historical Library, delivered in lists from each member, as on file."

By a vote of the Society in 1822, the late Hon. B. R. Nichols procured a mass of these papers, acquired at many times and from various sources, to be arranged, indexed, and bound, in three folio volumes, and labelled "Hutchinson Papers." They contain between two and three hundred distinct documents, of the most varied and miscellaneous character and contents.

These number 466 folios, of which 170 folios are letters, and their addresses. Not one of them is in the handwriting of Governor Hutchinson. Only six of them are of later date than 1724, and only eleven of them of later date than 1700. Only a very few of them indicate that they ever belonged to Governor Hutchinson, though that most of them had once been in his possession might properly be inferred by a reader of his "History of Massachusetts," and from their soiled appearance, occasioned by a fact soon to be mentioned. Indeed, the papers themselves are evidence that their rightful original or inheriting owners belonged to at least four generations. As will presently appear, they have not even the most remote connection with the other collection of "Hutchinson Papers" in the archives of the Commonwealth.

Most of these papers bear marks of having been crumpled, soiled by mud, and trampled upon. They are evidently in good part the papers referred to by Hutchinson in the preface to the first volume of his history, in which he says: "Many ancient records and papers came to me through my ancestors, who for four successive generations had been principal actors in public affairs; among the rest, a manuscript history of Mr. William Hubbard. I made what collection I could of the private papers of others of our first settlers."

This manuscript copy of Hubbard's History, referred to by Hutchinson, was the only one in the country.* It was in the possession of the Historical Society in 1791, as appears by their "Introductory Address" to the public in the first volume of their published collections, 1792. The Society acknowledges that "this precious relic was among the rich contributions furnished by the Rev. Dr. John Eliot, from his invaluable collection of the treasures of American history and antiquities." — (2 Hist. Coll., vol. v., Prefatory Notice.)

Dr. John Eliot, then, had in the last century presented to the Society one very valuable manuscript that had been in the possession of Governor Hutchinson, and had bestowed that among other "rich contributions." What were these? How came he by them? Do not the present "Hutchinson Papers," in the possession of the Society, probably include very many of them, and justify the Committee's referring your Excellency to Dr. Eliot as one of the sources from which they were derived? It is not, indeed, in their power to give a list, by titles and specifications, of these "rich contributions" by Dr. John Eliot. The records previous to 1813 made such detailed specification only of the gifts of persons not members of the Society. Those of members were mentioned only in lists made out by the donors, severally, which lists were put on file, and the files are now lost. But the fact that Dr. John Eliot's gift included the manuscript of Hubbard, known to have been in the hands of Hutchinson, and not afterwards challenged as at the rightful disposal of the donor, leads us to conclude that other Hutchinson manuscripts came to us through the same channel. If it be asked how Dr. John Eliot came into possession of them, the following statement may help toward an explanation.

* Besides the early transcript of Hubbard's History in the Society's Library, published in 1815 as two volumes of the Society's "Collections," there is in the Library what appears to be a rough draft of the work, in the handwriting of the author. In this, the beginning, at "fol. 1," corresponds to chapter xviii. of the transcript of the History referred to. — EDS.

In the preface to the second volume of his "History of Massachusetts" (first published in 1767), Governor Hutchinson refers to the odium, "the unaccountable jealousy which had been infused into the minds of the populace" against him and his administration, and says that "being thus misguided, they expressed their resentment and rage by breaking into my house, destroying and scattering all my furniture, books, papers, &c." This was the work of the mob that sacked his house in Boston on the evening of the 26th of August, 1765. He gratefully acknowledges compensation for his loss, so far as it was reparable, by a generous public grant; "but," he adds, "the loss of many papers and books in print, as well as manuscript, besides my family memorials, never can be repaired. For several days I had no hopes of recovering any considerable part of my History [meaning the manuscript of his second volume], but, by the great care and pains of my good friend and neighbor, the Rev. Mr. Eliot [Dr. Andrew Eliot, the father and predecessor of Dr. John Eliot], who received into his house all my books and papers which were saved, the whole manuscript, except eight or ten sheets, was collected together, and although it had lain in the streets, scattered abroad several hours in the rain, yet so much of it was legible as that I was able to supply the rest, and transcribe it. The most valuable materials were lost."

From this statement by Governor Hutchinson, it would appear that from among these mud-stained papers received for protection by Dr. Andrew Eliot, he reclaimed the manuscript of his second volume, to the subsequent fortune and present refuge of which, reference will by and by be made. For any thing that is said to the contrary, we may infer that he left the other papers in the keeping of his friend, as a safe depository of historic treasures, from whom they passed into the hands of his son, Dr. John Eliot, not as public property, but as documents appropriate for an historic cabinet, whenever there should be one at hand.

Of other papers described by Hutchinson as among "the most valuable materials" which "were lost," traditionary reports lead us to believe that some, at least, were picked up from the mud, found a safe, if not an appreciative, keeping with various individuals, and, together with the mass of the papers in the charge of Drs. Andrew and John Eliot, reached the cabinet of the Historical Society.*

It is very certain that Hutchinson himself never regained possession of all his lost papers; and it is probable that the larger portion of those which had been in his house in Boston, which were saved at all, never came into his hands again. The appearance and condition of the present collections substantiate this supposition.

In beginning the publication of a selection from the papers which had thus come into the possession of the Historical Society, the Publishing Committee of the Second Series of Collections, vol. X., say, on page 181, by way of preface,—

"By direction of the Governor and Council of this Commonwealth, the Secretary of State has deposited with the Massachusetts Historical Society a large collection of documents, public and private, which appear to have been used by the late Thomas Hutchinson, Esq., Governor of His Majesty's Province of Massachusetts Bay, in the composition of that History, which will probably continue to be the best narrative of any of the settlements on this continent. Several of these papers are printed in the collection of papers by Hutchinson, sometimes called the third volume of his History.

* The correctness of the position here taken by the Committee is abundantly confirmed by a memorandum of Dr. Belknap in the archives of the Society, which is brought to the notice of the Publishing Committee by the Assistant-Librarian, while this part of the "Proceedings" is passing through the press (July 23, 1868). The memorandum is labelled on the outside, also in Dr. Belknap's hand, "Mss., list of, in the Hist. Cabinet—1792"; and purports to be an inventory (covering about three and a half small quarto pages, numbered from "1" to "45,") of manuscripts in the Library or "Cabinet" of the Society at that early period. The first article in the inventory is, "Originals of Hutchinson's Collection." No. "41" is "Hubbard's History," which is also referred to in the Report as being in the possession of the Society in 1791. The whole list of titles is printed further on in this volume, among the proceedings of the meeting for August, 1868. — Eds.

"Those here printed have been transcribed with great care, by gentlemen of experience in the chirography of the different seasons of their date. In succeeding volumes, other pieces may enrich our Collections."

Here, certainly, was a frank avowal of the source whence the Society had derived some of the miscellaneous papers which, by purchase, or by loan, or by discovery, or by having been used by Hutchinson, had been called by his name.

It may be noted that the gift which Bradford, in his letter, affirmed that he made to the Society by "leave of the Council" is, in the above prefatory note in the Collections, said to have been made "by direction of the Governor and Council." This discrepancy of statement the Committee has no means of explaining. It may have been simply an inadvertence of one of the Publishing Committee. But this frankness of avowal in print is utterly inconsistent with any supposition of a surreptitious or unauthorized transfer of the papers from the State archives to the Society's cabinet.

The assertion of Secretary Bradford, above quoted, that the papers sent by him "are no part of the files of the Secretary's office," draws a distinction between them and certain other papers of Hutchinson's, in his charge, which did belong to his files. What these other papers were, and how distinct their character, by what means and for what use the State had obtained them, and the reasons which influenced the Governor and Council to regard the public archives as the proper depository of them, will soon be made satisfactorily to appear. It is to be remembered and considered that Governor Hutchinson is known to us in the twofold character of a writer of history and a Royal Governor of this Province. Papers bearing his name derive their value and interest from both those employments. The collection of "Hutchinson" documents in the archives in the State House, is in four thick folio volumes. The first three of these, labelled "Hutchinson Correspondence," contain about 1,500 letters, the greater

part of them written by Governor Hutchinson; the remainder addressed to him, dated, the earliest in 1761, the latest in 1774; with a few fragmentary accounts of legislative proceedings and popular commotions, from his own pen. The fourth volume, labelled "Hutchinson's MS. History, etc.," contains the manuscript of the first part of volume second of his History, a long letter without address, copies of some documents relating to the witchcraft trials, — all these in his own handwriting, — and a copy of his commission as Governor, not in his hand. The manuscript of his history, is torn, trampled, and mud-stained. The other papers are not. The manuscript of his history having been restored to him, as before stated, by Dr. Andrew Eliot, had enabled him to put the work into print in 1767, and had remained in his possession, separated, as may be inferred, from other papers once in his keeping. On the 1st of June, 1774, Hutchinson, having been superseded as Governor by General Gage, made his hurried flight to England. Expecting shortly to return, he left his house on Milton Hill, where he had been residing, with its contents undisturbed, in the care of his gardener. The public authorities did not meddle with his property till after the battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775. His estate was confiscated by an act of the legislature. This, however, did not of itself give the State a title to his property, but simply instituted a process like administration. But there is abundant evidence that the house had been entered, and books and papers removed without authority from anybody, in that interval, because sundry persons in the neighborhood were in the possession of the letter-books and other papers when the Committee of Safety ordered General Thomas, on the 29th of April, 1775, to take possession of the Hutchinson Papers.

Sundry trunks containing papers were found in the possession of Colonel William Taylor, who lived about a mile from the house, and who is supposed to have been a friend of Hutchinson, and who had probably removed them to his own

house when he found they were not safe where they had been left. The letter-books were found in the hands of Captain Hugh McLean, or his brother-in-law, Mr. John Boies, and these were the most eagerly sought for, as they were expected to implicate the Governor in the obnoxious measures of the British government. It was said at the time that these were found secreted in the sacks of beds. They were delivered up, and the State paid for them £50, as appears by a resolve of the legislature.

The Provincial Congress appointed committees to examine these documents, and agents to continue the search for more papers. (See Journals of Provincial Congress, p. 224.) February 3, 1779, the General Court passed a special order, directing all persons possessing such papers, to lodge the same in the Secretary's office.

The four volumes of "Hutchinson Correspondence," &c., in the State House, were arranged and bound by order of the legislature, about 1841. The interest exhibited by the public authorities in obtaining the papers of the Provincial Governor, as the above statement indicates, was not at all of an archaeological or antiquarian, but entirely of a political character. What papers were purchased by the State does not appear, by any contemporary or any subsequent record. But the fair presumption is, that the volumes in the State House contain them. There is no evidence that the State ever made any other purchase of Hutchinson Papers, or ever received a gift of such papers. There is no allegation that the State ever had any title or claim, or ever advanced a title or claim, to all the papers which have been obtained by the Society, or received from them a common title as "Hutchinson Papers," by being assorted and bound in volumes. The claim set up now for the State can presumably cover only the papers presented by Secretary Bradford. The only evidence adduced by Secretary Palfrey, or by any other person, in support of the claim for the State, is a single paragraph in the Records

of the Historical Society, in which, however, no particular papers are mentioned so as to admit of being identified. Beyond this record there is not a particle of evidence that any one of the Hutchinson Papers, now in possession of the Society, was ever in possession of the State, or of any officer of the State, or in any place occupied by any officer of the State.

This record fails to intimate, much more to establish, any right whatever on the part of the State. It does not even show that the State ever had any possession of the papers. The fact that papers happen to be within the Secretary's office (supposing some that we now have ever to have been there), unless they relate to the business of that office, or otherwise show that they pertain to the business of the State, does not show them to be in possession of the State.

That the papers presented by Mr. Bradford, in 1820, may have been in the Secretary's office, is, perhaps, probable. If so, that they were there without being in the possession of the State, and without any claim of title on the part of the State, is also rendered probable,—1. By the fact that Hutchinson's papers having been scattered in the manner above related, the State, more than ten years afterwards, did not purchase all, and probably but a small part of them, and still possesses what may well be supposed to be the papers thus purchased. 2. By the fact that Bradford, who was a faithful and intelligent officer of the State, having been Secretary for twelve years, would never have assumed, even with the consent of the councillors, to give away the property of the State without authority. 3. By the fact that the Council of that day would not have given their consent to the alienation of the property of the State, without authority to do so. 4. By the fact that there is no record of any act of the Council, and that the record of the Society does not purport to show that any official measure was attempted or assumed about the transfer of any papers. Mr. Bradford was not Governor,

and of course any consent of the Councillors to any act of his was not supposed to be official. But without what was supposed to be an official act, none of those gentlemen would have assumed to dispose of the property of the State.

Indeed, the letter of Mr. Bradford, copied above, accompanying the papers contributed by him to the Society, makes it quite clear that those papers were not the property of the State. His distinct declaration is, that the papers do not belong to the files of his department. But any papers of this description, which were the property of the State, would at that day have belonged to the files of his department. There was then no librarian, nor any library, nor any other place of disposal for such papers, the property of the State, except the office of the Secretary of State.

Secretary Bradford was himself engaged in writing a history of the State, and the fair presumption is, that these papers had been handed to him by persons, or the descendants of persons, into whose possession they had come after their dispersion by the mob, — not as a gift to the State, but that he might use and dispose of them in the proper manner, if they were of any value to anybody. Being Secretary of State at the time they were received by him at his office, he may have incidentally consulted the Council, when met on some occasion of business, as to the proper disposition to be made of them. They agreed with him, that such papers had better be given to the Historical Society, rather than to the State, to which they were of little if of any importance. Upon this supposition, every thing is fair and consistent. But upon a supposition that the State had purchased them, or received them as a gift, how could Bradford say that they did not belong to the files of his department; and how could the councillors assume to act as a council, in a matter respecting which they had no authority?

A supposition that Secretary Bradford and the Council of the Commonwealth violated their duty, in 1820, by giving

away the property of the State, without any authority, is not warrantable by any circumstances of the case, and is not consistent with the character of those gentlemen. But the present claim of the State is based entirely upon such an assumption.

The Society cannot consent to be instrumental in any degree in casting such a reproach upon the memory of those distinguished gentlemen. But this it must do, if it acquiesces in this claim.

If the papers which came to us through Secretary Bradford were at the time supposed to belong to the State, the officers and members of this Society, who received them, might also be considered as implicated in an unwarranted transaction. The duty of the Society to them is equally clear.

The Society cannot, therefore, consistently with its honor, yield to this claim.

The unchallenged possession of these papers from 1820 to 1847, claiming and using them as its own property,—a period in which such claims are ordinarily barred four times over, and more,—furnishes plenary evidence that the possession of the Society was, and ever has been, rightful.

And the abandonment of the claim made by Mr. Secretary Palfrey, and its being suffered to sleep for a term embracing more than two other periods of statutory limitation, complete that evidence.

The undersigned have thus, in the use of the means of information within their reach, offered to your Excellency such answers as they can give to your questions. They think they have indicated the origin and growth of two independent collections of papers, owned or used by Governor Hutchinson. They see no reason for believing that they ever formed one collection, or were contemporaneously in his possession. Still less will the facts warrant the theory that the two present collections once constituted a single series of documents, all in the State archives, and unwarrantably divided so as to

“give” the Historical Society the matter of three volumes, the Commonwealth retaining the other four.

The mass of the papers in the Society’s possession do not appear ever to have been in the charge of the public authorities: they are not related to Governor Hutchinson at all officially, nor do they bear the marks of his ownership. There may be even within the bindings some which he never saw.

Most respectfully yours,

(Signed)

GEORGE E. ELLIS.

EMORY WASHBURN.

JOEL PARKER.

After the reading of the Report, it was

Voted, That the Report of the Committee on the subject of the “Hutchinson Papers,” read this day, be accepted.

Voted, That the part of the Report which is expressed in the form of a letter to His Excellency, the Governor of the Commonwealth, be adopted by the Society as their answer to the communication of His Excellency, of the 10th of January last; and that a copy of the same be transmitted to him by the acting President of the Society.

The Chairman spoke of the death of Colonel Peter Force, of Washington, a Corresponding Member, who died on the 23d of January last, in his 78th year.

Mr. DEANE referred to the services of Colonel Force in the cause of history, and enumerated many of the publications with which he had been connected.

An application from Mr. William P. Upham, of Salem, for leave to copy a chart apparently of the coast from Cape Ann to Marblehead, drawn in the first volume of Winthrop’s manuscript History of New England, was referred to the Standing Committee, with full power.

Mr. FOLSOM read a letter from our Corresponding Member, the Hon. William Willis, of Portland, soliciting a gift of the Society's publications for the Portland City Library, which had sustained a great loss by the late fire.

On motion of Dr. ROBBINS, it was

Voted, That a complete set of the Society's publications, so far as they can be spared, be presented to the City Library of Portland.

MARCH MEETING.

A stated monthly meeting of the Society was held this day, Thursday, March 12, at eleven o'clock, A.M.; Colonel ASPINWALL in the chair.

The Secretary read the records of the last meeting.

The Librarian announced donations from the American Antiquarian Society; the Essex Institute; the Minnesota Historical Society; the Royal University of Norway; the State Historical Society of Iowa; the Trustees of the Peabody Museum of Archæology, &c.; the Trustees of the Public Library of the city of Boston; the Trustees of the Public Library of Taunton; the Publisher of "Le Courrier des États-Unis"; the Publisher of "Putnam's Monthly Magazine"; John Appleton, M.D.; Henry Barnard, Esq.; J. Carson Brevoort, Esq.; William T. Brigham, Esq.; Miss Mary Bryant; Mr. Horace P. Chandler; Samuel Hazard, Jr., Esq.; Rev. N. W. Jones; Thomas S. Kirkbride, M.D.; Maj. L. A.

Wyman, Thomas B., donation from,
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Wyat, *Sir Francis*, 25, 26.

Wyatt, W. E., *D.D.*, his controversy
with J. Sparks, 242, 243.

Y.

Yale College, 113, 407.

Yale College Library, 404.

Yarmouth, *N.S.*, inscription at, 93.

York, 489.

York, *Duke of*, 163.

Young, —, cited, 244.

Young, Alexander, *D.D.*, 433. Sketch
of, 431-432.

Young *v.* Adams, 54.

Young, Stephen J., donations from, 21,
344.

E R R A T A.

Page 16, *note*, bottom line, read "iii. 309-11."

„ 18, line 7, for "illegible signature or mark" read "Mamoho."

„ 68, line 18, for "subjects-matter" read "subject-matters."

„ 108, line 13 from bottom, for "President of Bowdoin College" read "pro-
nounced at Bowdoin College."

„ 126, *note*, line 6 from bottom, the ") " should be placed after the word "pages"
instead of after the figures "45."

„ 208, line 19 from bottom should read, "But these seem to be blown over."

„ 292, line 5, for "intersets" read "interests."

„ 298, line 18, read, "the *copies* from the original autographs."

„ 326, line 8 from bottom, read "a quarter past 1 night."

„ 327, line 12 from bottom, "1637-3" should be placed against the line above.

„ 333, *note*, 8th line from bottom, read, "an extract from the manuscript journal,
&c., communicated by Frederic Kidder, Esq."

„ 444, top line, for "Ohio" read "Illinois."